



Newtown Square Presbyterian Church www.newtownsquarepres.org January 4, 2026



# **NSPC** Weekly

January 4, 2026

The NSPC congregation extends a warm welcome to those who are visiting with us today. If you are in search of a new church home, we invite you to make that home with us. Please check the appropriate column on the pew pad if you would like to visit with the pastor or would like more information about the church. Include your phone number and/or email address. Please join us for refreshments and fellowship in the Gathering Room following the service.

Worship Leader: Doug Tase

<u>Ushers</u>: Allen Corle, Capt; Lynne Corle, Jack Chidester

**Acolyte:** Chiwa Vokhiwa

**Acolyte Guide:** Lynne Corle

**Communion Servers:**Bob Bechtold, Sue Bechtold, Ginny Berman, Nancy Gingras, Marg MacDonald, Jim Shea, Karen Shea

Communion

**Preparers:** Rich Digby & Paul Florence

Fellowship Hosts: Deacons

Sunday School Attendance - Let your teachers know you are here!

Sunday school is for children Pre-K through grade 4. The teachers are in their rooms preparing for class. By signing in, they know you are here and are expecting you! Scan the OR code here:



Are you visiting us today?

We would love to get to know you! Please sign in using this QR code:



#### THE LORD'S DAY

## Second Sunday of Christmas

**January 4, 2026** 

10:00 AM

#### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

May the peace of Christ be with you. *And also with you.* 

#### \* LITANY FOR EPIPHANY

Arise, shine; for your light has come!
The glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

Nations will come to his light, and rulers will seek his radiance.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

He will judge the people with righteousness and defend the cause of the poor.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

The mystery of the ages is revealed; the eternal plan of God is known to all.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

Let us kneel down before him to give him honor, glory, and praise.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

Let us offer him all the treasures of our hearts and our lives.

Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

#### \*PRAYER OF ADORATION

\*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST WELCOMES US TO WORSHIP

\*HYMN OF PRAISE 127......WE'LL WALK IN THE LIGHT "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing / Jesus, the Light of the World"

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of glory,

you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world, to reveal your love for all people.

We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of your light.

We turn away from the poor; we ignore cries for justice; we do not strive for peace.

In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin, and pour out the gifts of your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed, we may show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ.

(Please offer in silence your personal confession.)

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, believe the good news:

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

#### \*GLORIA PATRI 581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

#### SCRIPTURE READING

NT Page 2 ...... Matthew 2:1-12

This is the Word of our Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE......Rev. Bill Searight

(Children are dismissed for Sunday school following the Children's Message & youth group will remain in worship.)

ANTHEM ......Birthday of a King ......Neidlinger
Brynn Terry, Raúl Velazco, & NSPC Singers

In the little village of Bethlehem, There lay a Child one day, And the sky was bright with a holy light O'er the place where Jesus lay.

#### Refrain:

Alleluia! O how the angels sang.
Alleluia! How it rang!
And the sky was bright with a holy light,
'Twas the birthday of a King.

'Twas a humble birth-place, but O how much God gave to us that day, From the manger bed what a path has led, What a perfect, holy way. [Refrain]

#### SCRIPTURE READING

OT Page 690 ...... Isaiah 60:1-6

This is the Word of our Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON ...... Rev. Bill Searight

## \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (The Apostles' Creed)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried:

He descended to the dead.
On the third day He rose again;
He ascended into heaven,
He is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE 151.....KINGS OF ORIENT
"We Three Kings of Orient Are"

#### WE BRING OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS BEFORE GOD

To give electronically, scan this QR code on your smart phone. Please feel free to give in-person as well.



OFFERTORY......Angels We Have Heard on High......Trad./Anglea
NSPC Singers

Angels we have heard on high, Sweetly singing o'er the plains, And the mountains in reply Echo back joyous strains. **Refrain:** Gloria in excelsis Deo!

See him in a manger laid, Jesus, Lord of Heaven and earth! Mary, Joseph, lend your aid

With us sing our Savior's birth. [Refrain]

Come to Bethlehem, and see Him whose birth the angels sing; Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King. [Refrain]

#### \*DOXOLOGY 606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

#### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

#### INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

#### PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise...

#### ...We join with all creation

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in your name.
Hosanna in the highest.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

#### Reading of the Necrology & Lighting of the Candles

David Sampson	01/17/2025
Elsie Oreski	04/04/2025
Kathy Piroeff	06/15/2025
Mary Burgess	07/03/2025
Fiona Brown	08/09/2025

#### The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

#### BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND FILLING OF THE CUP

#### **COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

You may eat and drink as you are served. Grape juice is served and gluten-free wafers are provided in the center of each tray.

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*CLOSING	£ HYMN 140	IRBY
		l David's City"

#### \*BENEDICTION

#### \*WE CARRY THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

\*Congregation standing in body or spirit, as able



#### Today, Sunday, January 4, 2026

10:00 AM Worship Service 10:15 AM Sunday School 11:00 AM Fellowship Hour

#### Monday, January 5, 2026

1:00 PM Women's Ministry Bible Study

## Tuesday, January 6, 2026

8:00 AM Men's Christian Fellowship

#### Thursday, January 8, 2026

6:00 PM AA

#### Saturday, January 10, 2026

10:00 AM ACA

## **Prayer Requests**



Please share your prayer concerns! Trusting that God hears our prayers, we want to pray with and for you!

## This week, please pray for:

- Eric Jones & his family
- Lois Peck
- Randy Keaton & family (Lauren Snyder's father)
- CB (Coworker of Sara Cuccia)
- John Spaeder & Family
- Helen Walter (friend of Joe Falcon)
- Dennis White (friend of Joe Falcon)
- David Bryan (Brad Impriano's uncle)

## **Worship Notes**



The chancel flowers this morning are given to the glory of God and in honor and memory of all of our members who have come before.

The Litany for Epiphany and Prayer of Confession are reprinted by permission from the *Book of Common Worship*, © 2018 Westminster John Knox Press. All rights reserved.

NEW Sign-ups weekly chancel flowers and fellowship hour for 2026 are available. Please consider signing up for one of these wonderful missions. Thank you from the Deacons of NSPC! You can sign up using this link or the QR Code below: <a href="https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0949AFA629A5FE3-59442854-2026#/">https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0949AFA629A5FE3-59442854-2026#/</a> Thank you!

#### WEEKLY FLOWERS FOR THE CHANCEL:

The flower arrangement will be delivered from the Media Florist and placed on the Chancel prior to Worship. The cost for donating the flowers for one Sunday is \$25. Please make all checks out to NSPC and write "Chancel Flowers" in the memo section. You are welcome to take the flowers home with you or donate them to someone in our congregation who is feeling under the weather.

#### FELLOWSHIP HOUR COFFEE/REFRESHMENTS IN THE

**GATHERING ROOM:** Following Worship, coffee, cold beverages and light snacks are provided in the Gathering Room. This is a short but very worthwhile activity as NSPC friends gather to greet each other and have friendly conversation. Hosts can share the duty and provide this time of refreshment. *We especially need hosts on the second Sunday of each month.* The Deacons have their monthly meetings those Sundays and cannot host. Thank you so much!

## **Announcements**

**Knitting** will resume on Monday, January 12<sup>th</sup>. We hope that you can join us!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the **Christmas Joy Offering!** We collected \$647. We appreciate your generosity!





Many of you have been asking about Eric and what you can do to help the Bennett Jones Family as they continue to focus on Eric's health. Their school community has added more dates for the fall to keep the Meal Train going. Please sign up if you are able to help,

please sign up with the link or QR code: <a href="https://mealtrain.com/gv9o93">https://mealtrain.com/gv9o93</a> We are grateful for your caring hearts and giving hands.



We are thrilled to share that the NSPC family was as generous as ever this year. **The Giving Tree** was a big success, and the participation grows each year! The NSPC knitting group was truly amazing (and very busy) and thanks to everyone's efforts, we collected a remarkable 121 winter weather items (hats, gloves, scarves) for underserved children in the Philadelphia area. The number of items collected continues to grow each year. It's heartwarming to see such generosity and community spirit at work in

NSPC. Thanks to everyone that contributed to the NSPC Giving Tree this year. Your generosity inspires us all!



Blood

## Our next ARC Blood Drive is scheduled for January 29th



from 2-7 PM. We hope to see you there. We have begun scheduling for our drive. Please scan the QR code to sign up!



We are most fortunate to have an opportunity to partner with OUTBACK STEAK HOUSE in Springfield for a fundraiser in support of Rise Against Hunger. Outback's offer is for NSPC members and

friends to pre-purchase a \$25 gift card. The card can be redeemed at the Springfield Outback Steakhouse from January 1 — January 31, 2026. For every card redeemed, the Springfield Outback will only charge us food costs for the item ordered, roughly between 40-50%; the remainder stays with NSPC for RAH. This is a very generous offer. The card can be redeemed for one of the following meals (NO SUBSTITUTIONS):

- Victoria's Filet Mignon 6 oz.
- Outback New York Strip 12 oz.
- Perfectly Grilled Salmon
- Alice Springs Chicken

This will include 2 sides (10 to choose from) and an alcohol-free beverage (with free refills). The cards will be sold Sunday, November 30th through mid-January at the church.

## **Youth Announcements**

#### **Youth Group Schedule**

- 1/4 Youth in Church / No PM Activity
- 1/11 Topic: Coffee with Jesus Series (PM)
- 1/18 Breakfast Club (AM) / Topic: Coffee with Jesus Series (PM)
- 1/24-1/25 Youth Lock In



# Join Our New Kids' Group Little Lights

All Preschool through 4<sup>th</sup> grade children are invited to be a part of Little Lights at NSPC – a faith-filled time to grow, play and shine together! We meet on **January 18th from 11:15-11:45** in the youth room downstairs. **Grab a snack after Sunday School and then** 

*head down to the Youth Room!* We will enjoy crafts, songs, and games. Join us as we learn to shine God's light together!



Join us for a night of fun, fellowship, and faith! January 24<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> in the church social hall. Dropoff is at 7:00 PM and pick up is 8:00 AM. Please bring pillows and sleeping bags. Check the sign-up genius to register:



The youth group meeting time is changing! Youth Group will return to meeting Sunday evenings from 7-8 PM. Youth remain in worship on the first Sunday of the month for communion. And, Breakfast Club will remain on the third Sunday of the month from

10:15-11:15. Please watch our announcements for the times of our meetings!

## Church Officers:

#### SESSION/BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Moderator: The Rev. Bill Searight

<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>	<u>Class of 2028</u>
Ed Arraya	Sue Bechtold	Lynne Corle
Buff Biddle	Sara DiGirolamo	Joe Falcon
Jane Fioravanti	Jennifer Gries	Rob Gray
Joe Marchesani	Doug Tase	Laurie Lynch

#### **BOARD OF DEACONS**

Moderator: Margie Garwood

<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>	<u>Class of 2028</u>
Sara Cuccia	Bob Arnold	Jack Chidester
Kathy Donovan	Nicolle Arraya	Pat Deluca
Margie Garwood	Paul Florence	Rich Digby
Marg MacDonald	Andy Tucker	Karen Shea

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday 9:00 - 3:30

Friday Closed



#### In Ministry Together at Newtown Square Presbyterian Church:

Pastor	The Rev. Bill Searight
Parish Associate	
Director of Music	Ting Ting Wong
Director of Youth & Families	Kristi Schaub
Church Office Manager	Heather Impriano
PreK-2nd Sunday School Teacher	Beth McCarry
3 <sup>rd</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> grade Sunday School Teacher	Debbie Villano
Nursery Attendants	.Grace McCarry & Sadie Kazanjian
Spiritual Director	Jacki Tase
Co-Director, NSPC Preschool	Jane Fioravanti
Co-Director, NSPC Preschool	Meghan Kazanjian
Clerk of Session	Buff Biddle
President, Board of Trustees	
Moderator of Deacons	Margie Garwood
Co-Treasurer	Rich Digby
Co-Treasurer	Heather Impriano
Head Usher	Grant Snyder
Communion Coordinator	Carol Guest
Presbyterian Women	Ginny Berman

## Plus...all the members of NSPC

#### **Church Contact Information:**

Church Phone:	610-356-8063
Ting Ting Wong (cell):	412-608-5588
Rev. Searight e-mail:	
Ting Ting Wong e-mail:	music@newtownsquarepres.org
Kristi Schaub e-mail:	youth@newtownsquarepres.org

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